



Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March, 2020

Dear parents and carers,

As the situation around Covid-19 escalates nationally, schools are preparing for the local situation to change and the number of confirmed cases to increase. Should this happen, it is possible that there will be impact on schools being able to stay open. The Prime Minister is expected to sign off plans to move from the 'containment' phase of the outbreak to 'delay' at the Cobra meeting later today. Delay is where 'social distancing' measures will be considered, which could include restrictions on public gatherings above a certain number of people, although this is not thought likely at this stage.

Schools are being guided by the experts at Public Health England who have established stringent criteria for if and when a school should close, and for how long. In the event of school closure, we have plans to set work daily for children in year 1-6 through online platforms. Today and tomorrow, class teachers will be ensuring that children are familiar with log in details and will be able to access online learning from any device. Children will be set daily mathematics and English work, as well as topic work each week. Pupils will be able to submit their work which will be marked / assessed by teachers remotely. Our Reception children will be issued with reading books and phonics activities, as well as maths and topic work.

For now, we are trying to maintain business as usual and keep disruption to our children's learning to a minimum. However, the health and safety of the children, staff and wider community has to be our priority and we have to play our part in preventing the spread of the virus.

Please follow the links below for public health advice and information.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response> . There is a public helpline **0800 0468687** which is open from 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday).

Please also see the link below for 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill' information.

( <https://campaignresources.phe.gov.uk/resources/campaigns/101/resources/5016> ) is also welcomed.

Thank you in advance for your understanding. I appreciate how unsettling this is, but please be assured that we are working to ensure contingency plans are in place.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads 'Juliette Westwood'.

Juliette Westwood  
Executive Head Teacher